

Bioengineering Qualifying Examination: Exam Committee Guidelines

You are receiving this document because you have agreed to participate as a committee member for one or more of the qualifying examinations for PhD students in the Bioengineering department.

The objective of the qualifying exam is to assess whether the student is well-suited for our doctoral program. It is *not* an evaluation of the student's progress on a specific thesis project and, in fact, no preliminary data are required or expected for the qualifying exam. The general topic of the qualifier will be submitted by the advisor to the Graduate Examinations Committee (GEC) and it may be related or unrelated to the student's specific thesis project. The student is expected to prepare both a written document and an oral presentation on a more focused hypothesis based on the provided topic; however, the student is not allowed to consult his/her advisor or the examination committee in the preparation of either the written report or the oral presentation.

Please consult the provided set of student and advisor instructions to familiarize yourself with the process and the evaluation sheet for the evaluation criteria: emphasis will be placed on biosciences/engineering expertise, formulation of hypothesis, and design of experiments to validate hypothesis. No preliminary data are expected from the student.

While preparing the qualifier (both written and oral components), the student is not to consult the advisor, peers, or anyone else. No scientific help is allowed. Kate Venit, the GEC chair, and the Bioengineering Graduate Group chair will provide administrative guidance, if necessary.

Please complete the Evaluation of Written Exam form (the student should have attached this as a cover page to the written proposal) and bring it with you to the oral exam.

If you have any questions about the process, please do not hesitate to contact us. Thank you for your time and effort.

Sincerely,

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Chair, Graduate Examinations Committee

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Chair, Bioengineering Graduate Group